

New Faces



DON HECKEL joined the Planning and Zoning Division in February, as a Senior Land Use Specialist. After spending four years in the U.S. Navy, stationed in Guam and San Diego, Don attended UW-Milwaukee, where he received a B.A. degree in Geography and a certificate in Urban Planning. He was previously employed as a Planner in the Community Assistance Planning Division of the South-eastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC). Don lives in Milwaukee with his wife Kelli. They are members of the Alterra Coffee Mountain Bike Race Team. Don also enjoys golf, volleyball, and basketball.

MICHELLE STAFF also joined the Planning and Zoning Division in February, as a Senior Land Use Specialist. She graduated from UW-Whitewater with a B.S. degree in Geography and is currently working towards a Masters degree in Public Administration at UW-Oshkosh. She was previously employed as a GIS Technician with the Jefferson County Land Conservation and Zoning Department. Michelle lives in Fort Atkinson with her husband of two years.

LEIF HAUGE joined the Land Resources Division in April as a Senior Civil Engineer after spending ten years working for two engineering consulting companies in the Milwaukee area. Leif attended Concordia College in Moorhead, Minnesota, then taught high school math as a Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, West Africa. After returning,

Leif earned a BS and MS in Civil / Environmental Engineering at Michigan Technological University in his hometown of Houghton, Michigan. Leif lives in the Town of Summit with his wife, Jean, and two cats. Leif is a Professional Engineer and Professional Hydrologist in the State of Wisconsin. Leif enjoys bicycling and playing ice hockey, among numerous other activities.

MARY MAIDA also joined the Land Resources Division in April as a Senior Conservation Specialist. Mary has been working for the North Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (NCWRPC) for the past two years as a planner and previously worked for the Jefferson County Land Conservation Department. She received a B.S. degree in Resource Management from UW – Stevens Point. Mary resides in the Town of Oconomowoc with her husband Michael and enjoys many outdoor activities such as camping, biking, and hiking.

Waukesha County Parks says a sad, good-bye to Kelly Valentino, who took a job as Recreation Director for the Village of Jackson in February.

MONA BAUER joined the staff in March as Parks Program Specialist. She previously worked as Recreation Director in the Town of Mukwonago. Mona has a degree in Marketing from WCTC and a degree in Recreation from Kent State University. She lives in Mukwonago with her husband Mike, and five children, Leslie 21, Jeremy 19, Jenn 17, Nate 16 and Nick 14. She enjoys coaching soccer, gardening, and playing on the computer.

New Park Supervisor, **DUANE GRIMM** comes to Waukesha County from the City of Neenah where he served eight years as Park Superintendent. Duane received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Park Management from South Dakota State University. He is married to Debra and has three children Rachel, Ericka, and Carly. Landscaping, and woodworking are hobbies he enjoys.

STUDENTS ARE “CHAMPIONS OF THE ENVIRONMENT”

By: Jayne Jenks, Conservation Specialist

Nearly 200 students in Waukesha County took the opportunity to be a “champion” for their environment by preparing posters, essays, videos and computer art for the 2nd annual **Champions of the Environment** competition. This years winners are:

Poster grades k-2

1 st Tyler Naumowicz	Hillcrest Elementary
2 nd Micaela Siraj	Hillcrest Elementary
3 rd Kimberly Brandt	Hillcrest Elementary

Poster grades 3-5

1 st Kelly Cegielski	Trinity Lutheran
2 nd Katie Hierlmeier	Trinity Lutheran
3 rd Mark Brandt	Hillcrest Elementary

Poster grades 6-8

1 st Evan Vogel	Templeton Middle School
2 nd Kelly Pritchard	Thomas Jefferson Middle School
3 rd Matthew Kraus	Templeton Middle School

Computer Art grades 3-5

1 st Tim Sweeney	St. John Vianney
2 nd Matt Otto	St. John Vianney
3 rd Ashley Nicola	Horizon School

Spokesperson grades 3-5

1 st Sean Tehan	Heyer Elementary
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Spokesperson grades 6-8

1 st Chris Sonier	Templeton Middle School
2 nd Rebecca Schlehle	Templeton Middle School
3 rd Ryan Miracle	Templeton Middle School

Essay grades 3-5

1 st Parry Koutsios	Woodside Elementary
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Essay grades 6-8

1 st Rebecca Cassells	Templeton Middle School
2 nd Katie Danner	Templeton Middle School
3 rd Alli Umhoefer	Templeton Middle School

Computer Art grades 6-8

1 st Steven Binko	St. Luke's
2 nd Kelly Borden	St. Luke's
3 rd Katie Kuffel	St. Luke's

These students will be honored at a reception on May 29, where they will receive medallions and savings bonds of \$100 for first place, \$75 for second place and \$50 for third place. Not only are these our “Champions” of today, but they will be our champions for the future. Congratulations!